Helping to Develop Confidence in Children
by Barbara Townson

What’s one secret to helping students become more confident and perhaps having a positive mental attitude? According to Professor Karen Pine, the answer may lie in what they're wearing. She wanted to know if heroic clothing would change how students thought. Surprisingly, she found that not only did it make them more confident, but it also made them actually think they were physically stronger. But it wasn’t just superhero clothing that affected their state of mind—she found that they also tended to "become" whatever they wore.1

Our signature program, Operation School Bell® continues to support local children in need by providing NEW clothing, shoes, personal hygiene kits and school supplies.

During the 2018-2019 school year, our volunteers provided direct support to 2,333 children. Our goal is to reach even more children annually. After successfully piloting an expansion of this program for a year to include high school students, the great news is that we’re permanently including any student without a permanent home, including middle and high school students. The need is there—since there are 3,200 students in Wake County in this situation on any given day.

The children who receive in-school delivery were provided with new clothing including a lined jacket, two pairs of pants, a long-sleeved shirt, a short-sleeved shirt, five to six pairs of underwear, six pairs of socks, new athletic shoes, and personal hygiene items including a toothbrush and toothpaste. We also coordinated with public libraries to choose grade-appropriate books. Each elementary school student received a new book and bookmark with their clothing.

Students shopping at our in-store events at Target choose items they could wear to school valued at $75-$120 depending on their age group. They also receive hygiene kits.

Operation School Bell 2018-2019 Achievements:
- In-school delivery of new clothes and shoes to 978 children in 14 schools.
- In-store shopping of $75 per student at Target for 500 children from 16 schools.
- New clothing, shoes and hygiene items for 313 homeless children valued at $75 per child.
- New clothing, shoes, and hygiene items valued at $100-$120 for 35 homeless middle or high school students.
- New clothing and supplies for 507 children for emergency needs at school.

1 http://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/do-something-different/201405/what-your-clothes-are-telling-you

21 Years of Community Service

This year marks the 21st year that Assistance League of the Triangle Area has been providing philanthropic programs and support to the community to impact the lives of so many, as indicated with a few highlights below:

- Provided 283 scholarships totaling over $900,000 since 2000
- Served 23,672 students through Operation School Bell since the 1988-1989 school year
- Served 48,616 women through the Women in Need program since 1997

Visit www.altriangle.org for more stories
Kids Place, a part of Assistance League of the Triangle Area since 1997, serves pediatric emergency rooms at four sites:
- Wake Med in Raleigh
- Wake Med Annexes in Apex and Brier Creek
- Duke Hospital (added to the program in 2018)

The Kids Place program provides comfort to children and their families during a very stressful time within hospital emergency room facilities.

**A Kids Place Bear Story**
by Janice Carlton

While making a Kids Place delivery to Brier Creek Healthplex Emergency Department, a nurse greeted us and stated, “I know all about the teddy bears and Assistance League!”

She shared that when her son was young, he had surgery and received an Assistance League teddy bear from their local hospital in California.

Over the years he treasured the bear. Recently, when they were loading the car to take him to college, he said, “Wait a minute!” Her son went back in the house, came out with his teddy bear and took it to college with him! WOW! What an exciting greeting for us, and a tremendous reason for Assistance League of the Triangle Area to provide teddy bears and toys for Kids Place at our four local sites!

**Did You Know?**

This program provides the following to all four Kids Place locations:
- Assistance League teddy bears
- Books
- Crayons and coloring books
- Play Doh and chapsticks
- A Treasure Chest with small toys

These items are used for a variety of purposes, not only for the children being treated, but also for brothers and sisters waiting with their families in emergency rooms.

Along with the teddy bears these items provide relief from stress, assist in passing the time and meet other emergency room patient needs.
Scholars Continue Their Education Journey
By Grace Fox

This was another exciting year for Assistance League of the Triangle Area Scholarship Program—with $141,500 awarded to 33 students in need of financial assistance. These scholarships support students who will attend North Carolina colleges, universities or technical schools. This year’s scholarships were made possible thanks to the Gipson Family Foundation, proceeds from the A-Z Thrift Shop and our Open Your Heart campaign.

Who Are These Scholars?
- Two U.S. Marine Corps reservists
- One U.S. Army reservist who plans to be a police officer
- Sports enthusiasts including a baseball player, a swimmer, a volleyball player and a cross-country runner
- One scholar, the first in his family to go to college, organized a campus group to help other first-time students adjust to college
- Several scholars are dedicated to finding solutions to climate change, protecting endangered species, and finding cures and treatments for diseases
- Eleven are independent of all parental support and we’re pleased to be able to step in and support these determined scholars

How Were This Year’s Scholarships Allocated?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Total Funds Allocated</th>
<th>Funds to Returning Scholars</th>
<th>Funds to New Undergraduates</th>
<th>Funds to High School Seniors</th>
<th># and % of Applicants that Received Money</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wake</td>
<td>$98,000</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
<td>$11,500</td>
<td>$21,500</td>
<td>22 of 35 applicants (63%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durham</td>
<td>$19,500</td>
<td>$9,500</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>6 of 8 applicants (63%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>$24,000</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>5 of 9 applicants (55%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$141,500</td>
<td>$87,500</td>
<td>$18,500</td>
<td>$35,500</td>
<td>33 of 52 applications (64%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019 Scholarship Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Returning Students</th>
<th>High School Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sandra Addo – East Carolina (4)</td>
<td>Carley Back – NC State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luisa Anaya-Sandoval – NC State (2)</td>
<td>Luis Carmona – Durham Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diona Boone – UNC Greensboro (2)</td>
<td>Suong Lim – Wake Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Brooks – UNC Greensboro (2)</td>
<td>Randi Martinez – UNC Wilmington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dejare Cumberbatch – U. Of Mount Olive (2)</td>
<td>Cameron Michalski – UNC Charlotte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dillon Davis – NC State (2)</td>
<td>Dionejala-Tyionna Muhammad – UNC Chapel Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Dua – NC State (2)</td>
<td>Alexis Plasencia Leos – NC A&amp;T Univ.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean Carlos Ferman – NC State (3)</td>
<td>Riley Pothier – Western Carolina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renuka Gogusetti – NC State (4)</td>
<td>Donald Queen – UNC Chapel Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hannah (Kaitlyn) Jordan – NC State (4)</td>
<td>Gerson Torres – Barton College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Leeder – NC State (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Lepore – UNC Chapel Hill (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin Panameno – NC State (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daysean Scott – UNC Charlotte (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Silva-Flores – NC State (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Megan Sweeney – UNC Charlotte (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleys Thomas – East Carolina (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julia Wielgus – NC State (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (#) Indicates the number of times that returning students have been recipients

Special thanks to PNC for sponsoring the event by providing lunch to recognize the efforts of our volunteers.

And special thanks to Catering Works for donating the use of their beautiful venue, The Laurelbrook.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for the annual scholarship presentation. Contact us at join@altriangle.org.
To donate or get involved, please call 919-875-8901. Tax deductible forms are available upon request.

2019 Assistance League of the Triangle Area Scholarship Recipients

Front Row: Savinna Mangalindan, Eleoxys Thomas, Lauren Brooks, Diona Boone, Suong Lim, Carley Back, Dionejala-Tyionna Muhammad, Rebecca Lepore, Sandra Addo, Kendall Gibbs Back Row: Karen Silva Flores, Luisa Anaya, Iman Sheik, Randi Martinez, Cameron Michalski, Alexis Plasencia Leos, Riley Pothier, Austin Panameno, Brandon Panameno, Donald Queen, Gerson Torres, Jesse Leeder, Kyle Dua, Dillon Davis, Megan Sweeney, Dejare’ Cumberbatch, Siege Dowah, Luis Carmona

A-Z Thrift Shop: Funding Community Programs & More!

by Joyce Poole

Ever since the release of Macklemore’s song, “Thrift Shop,” thrift store shopping has become a more mainstream way of saving money. Items from thrift stores aren’t seen as unwanted and used—they’re viewed as pre-owned “treasures.” Some people have known this for years and others might be newer to the concept. Thrift store shopping has even become its own community with many people calling their hobby different names—“thrifting,” “thrift hauling” and “Goodwill hunting.” Regardless of what they call it, most people who go thrifting are on the lookout for fantastic deals.

At its core, Assistance League of the Triangle Area is an organization of people serving people. The A-Z Thrift Shop at 1621 N. Market Drive in Raleigh is operated by 100% volunteers and is the major source of funds to support the philanthropic programs featured in this publication.

The success of this shop originates with the fantastic items that individuals donate from their homes, attics, friends, and family. Additionally, we coordinate with estate sale companies to receive donations, as well as working with a local 55+ community twice a year by going to their location and picking up items they have to donate. Many of their residents are downsizing and tend to have items that they no longer need or don’t fit in their new housing. These activities are on top of the countless donations that are delivered to the shop each week. The overall generosity makes it possible for customers to shop for treasures, much sought-after items, unusual pieces of art, and even everyday kitchen utensils.

To donate or get involved, please call 919-875-8901. Tax deductible forms are available upon request.

Assistance League of the Triangle Area is an all volunteer nonprofit organization. Operating the shop requires 23 volunteers each week to work a 3-4 hour shift. This doesn’t include the hours we spend picking items up, cleaning, pricing and displaying items for sale.
Message from the President

 Assistance League is a unique organization. One of the things I appreciate the most about it is that you can participate as a member or as a community volunteer. In either case, we are people who are dedicated to transforming the lives of women, children and families and strengthening our community.

Our members and volunteers work hard to find resources to support the programs we think are important to our community through the A-Z Thrift Shop, cash and in-kind donations, and grants and sponsorships. Their efforts last year raised almost a half million dollars in support of Operation School Bell, Scholarships, and community programs in partnership with other organizations.

We are entering our 21st year as an organization and still striving to improve the ways we serve the individuals who make up our local community:

• Operation School Bell is continuing to increase the number of homeless middle and high school students we are able to serve.
• Scholarships is receiving additional funding.
• We are significantly increasing the amount of support provided through community programs such as Kids Place and Women in Need as we expand more into Durham and Orange counties.

And remember, all of the things we talk about in this publication are done with no paid staff.

Barbara Townson, President

Volunteers of the Year Awards

As voted by our membership, Phyllis Sullivan and Sue Kosinski were recognized for their contributions.

The Leadership Award, presented to Phyllis, recognizes a volunteer at the leadership level in the organization who has provided the most outstanding service during the year. She’s held many roles since joining 16 years ago including serving as president twice, coordinator for a newly-created Community Volunteer aspect of the chapter and serving as a coordinator for the OSB program.

The Founder’s Award, presented to Sue, is given to a volunteer who has rendered the greatest service to the organization during the year and shared in the spirit and enthusiasm for Triangle Area initiatives. She has been a volunteer for 20 years. She has served as Treasurer and Open Your Heart Co-Chair, been involved with socials and served as a mentor. She regularly helps with pickups of donations as well as helping in the Thrift Shop each week.

What We Did:

As of fiscal year-end 5/31/19

$141,500 awarded in the Scholarships program
$359,000 returned to the community by our Philanthropic Programs
2,333 students clothed by Operation School Bell
33 students awarded grants in the Scholarships program
2,633 books distributed as a result of Legacy of Literacy Day
828 individuals clothed by redistribution to a clothing closet
74 people received flower vases through Community Sharing
55 children acquired three books each in a mobile classroom

Who We Are:

100% volunteers with no paid staff members
98 active members in 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
$263,630 annual gross sales (excludes sales tax) by the volunteer-operated A-Z Thrift Shop
30,663 volunteer hours contributed to the local community

Legacy of Literacy

Our “Legacy of Literacy Reading Day” held on February 26th was the culminating activity to recognize the National Assistance League® ACTION! Week.

• Each student (808) received a book at Beaverdam Elementary School and each student (208) also received a book at Global Scholars Academy Charter School in Durham.
• Volunteers read to children in kindergarten through fifth grade, and the library at Global Scholars Academy received over 1,200 books.
• In partnership with Barnes & Noble Cary Bookstore, we received 1500 books from their Holiday Book Collection Drive.
Thank You to the Following for Their Generous Support!

- 4 Others Foundation
- Amazon
- Barnes & Noble - Cary Location
- Capital Bank
- Cap Trust
- Carolina Arbors
- Carolina Hurricanes
- Carolina Preserve Cares
- Dr. Robert A Bailey, Access Family Dental Care
- Durham Merchant Association
- Gipson Family Foundation
- Homewood Nursery
- IBM
- Ida Terbert Group
- Kildaire Rotary Club Foundation
- Linda Craft Realty
- NVIDIA Corporation & Employees
- Pest Pros
- Pinnacle Financial Partners
- PNC
- Wake Electric Care Foundation

Special Thanks
Barnes & Noble Bookstore in Cary, NC.

Our chapter partnered with the **Barnes & Noble Bookstore** in Cary, NC and received 1500 books from their Holiday Book Collection Drive during the month of December to support our **Legacy of Literacy Reading Day** and distribution of books to some Wake County school children.

They included us in their holiday wrapping, providing us with an opportunity to share information about our organization with their customers, while members and student volunteers wrapped gifts.

Funds & Grants Highlights

**The Highest Level of Recognition**

Assistance League of the Triangle Area is committed to transparency and full disclosure of our financials. We encourage all donors to view our online profile which includes an overview of philanthropic programs, description of our operations, and concise historical metrics.

“GuideStar Platinum encourages nonprofit organizations to share their progress and results in important new ways—moving way beyond simplistic financial ratios—to reflect the changes organizations are making in the world.”

- From GuideStar website
  https://learn.guidestar.org/platinum

Q: How can I donate to support your philanthropic efforts?

A: We have an **Open Your Heart** campaign each fall and online donations are always appreciated by going to our website [www.altriangle.org](http://www.altriangle.org) and selecting **Donate Now**.
Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Position  
May 31, 2019  May, 31, 2018

ASSETS
Cash & Cash Equivalents $393,012  $358,186
Prepaid Expenses 12,032  12,860
Inventories 63,455  60,794
Property & Equipment 12,618  13,771
TOTAL ASSETS $481,117  $445,611

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS
Liabilities $5,802  $ 4,060
Net Assets 475,315  441,551
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS $481,117  $445,611

Statement of Activities

SUPPORT & REVENUES
Thrift Shop Revenue $263,640  $253,680
Contributions & Grants 173,697  197,868
Membership 5,723  6,566
Interest income 4,073  2,411
Noncash Contributions 43,306  29,438
Other 1,531  3,506
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUES $491,970  $493,469

EXPENSES
Program Services
Operation School Bell $149,087  $154,545
Kids Place 13,760  7,023
Women In Need 16,137  15,254
Scholarships 140,837  146,088
Senior Multi-Interest (SMILE)/Other -  3,763
Legacy of Literacy 17,762  -
Community Sharing 21,458  21,380
Total Program Service Expenses $359,041  $348,053

Support Services
Fundraising (Thrift Shop) Expense* $82,822  $ 78,942
Other Fundraising Expenses 5,253  4,956
Management & General 6,455  5,481
Membership Development 4,635  4,940
Total Support Services Expenses $99,165  $94,319
TOTAL EXPENSES $458,206  $442,372

INCREASE IN NET ASSETS $33,764  $51,097
NET ASSETS—BEGINNING OF YEAR $441,551  $390,454
NET ASSETS—END OF YEAR $475,315  $441,551

*Thrift Shop expenses are occupancy costs only. There are no labor costs nor cost of goods sold. The A-Z Thrift Shop sustains itself and all monetary donations go directly to philanthropic programs.

Our reserve policy is to retain one year of operating expenses. Complete Financial Statements for the year ending May 31, 2019 are available upon request.

Donna Wooster, Treasurer
Visit the A-Z Thrift Shop:
1621 North Market Dr. Raleigh, NC.

Hours of Operation:
- Wed: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Thurs: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Fri: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Sat: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Questions or want to schedule a pickup of donations?
Call: 919-875-8901

Visit www.altriangle.org for more information & to view a list of monthly events, or to get involved email: join@altriangle.org

Board of Directors
President – Barbara Townson
1st Vice President – Phyllis Sullivan
VP Membership – Ann Cole
VP Philanthropic Programs – Anna Merrett
VP Resource Development – Linda Greenan
Secretary – Beth Everly

Treasurer – Donna Wooster
Technology – Darlene Brooks
Marketing Communications – Patti Cunningham
Strategic Planning – Janie Wilson
Parliamentarian – Janice Carlton

Advisory Council
Tia Coppus – Banking
Darryl Fisher, Sr. – Schools
Susan Lilly – Fundraising
Michelle Mozingo – Schools
Jim Wright – Legal Counsel
Donald Fuchs – Business